CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: The Porn Factor

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1800614.000

Medium: Film (online)

Director: Maree Crabbe
David Corlett

Producer: Maree Crabbe
David Corlett

Country of origin: Australia

Language: English

Applicant: Chief Censor

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Nudity, explicit sexual material and offensive language

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 13 February 2019

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 13 February 2019

	Components	**Running time**
Feature(s):	The Porn Factor	49:00
Total running time:		49:00

Summary of reasons for decision:

'The Porn Factor' was called in by the Chief Censor under s 13(3) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 along with another documentary film from the same directors and producers ('Love & Sex in an Age of Pornography' - OFLC Ref: 1800615.000) in light of the outcomes of recent research undertaken by the Classification Office (NZ Youth and Porn: Research

findings of a survey on how and why young New Zealanders view online pornography). 'The Porn Factor' is an educational and candid look at the shifts in contemporary mainstream pornography and its influence on the sexual expectations and experiences of young people. It encourages critical analysis about the ways in which porn has changed in the internet era, and the impacts it is likely to have on young people today. It contains a series of candid discussions about adult sexual behaviours and expectations, backed up with information from experts in the fields of psychology and youth development. Although some of the imagery and discussion surrounding sex is challenging and at times explicit, none of the depictions or descriptions are presented as sexually titillating. The documentary is clearly intended to be educational. It discusses the potential harms, particularly to young, sexually inexperienced adults, that may result from exposure to the aggressive tone of modern pornography. These discussions are likely to have a positive impact on those who may have considered and been affected by these issues, as well as those who have not critically thought about pornography at all. While children and younger teenagers might find the discussions and some of the associated images confronting and disturbing, older teenagers and adults will be able to place the film's themes and discussion within an educational context, and are unlikely to be shocked or disturbed by its material. The message is clear and it is difficult to interpret the documentary in any other way. In light of the outcomes of the Classification Office's recent research into young New Zealanders' use of pornography, and the need for resources such as this to help them navigate the material they are exposed to, the documentary is classified R16. This is a limitation on the right to freedom of expression contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 but is the lowest reasonable restriction that can be applied in order to prevent injury to the public good.